AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A method for potentiating an antiaging action of a composition containing ascorbic acid 2-glucoside, the method comprising the step of incorporating at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group (B) consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof into said composition.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.5 to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

18. (Previously Presented) A method for retarding skin-aging comprising the step of applying to the skin ascorbic acid 2-glucoside and at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof.

19-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method for potentiating a skin pigmentation alleviating action of a composition containing ascorbic acid 2-glucoside, the method comprising the step of incorporating at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group (B) consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof into said composition.

28. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

29. (Previously Presented) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.5 to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

30. (Previously Presented) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation comprising the step of applying to pigmented skin ascorbic acid 2-glucoside and at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group consisting of adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof.

31. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the composition contains ascorbic acid 2-glucoside in a proportion of 0.05 to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

32. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) is incorporated in a proportion of 0.05 to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

33. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

34. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 12, wherein the component (B) synergistically potentiates the antiaging effect of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

35. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein a composition comprising:

(A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside; and

(B) at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof

is applied to the skin.

36. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein the at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

37. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the component (A) is present in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

38. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

39. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.5 parts to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the component (A).

40. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 35, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

41. (New) A method for retarding skin aging according to Claim 18, wherein the purine nucleic acid-related substance synergistically potentiates the antiaging effect of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

42. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the composition contains ascorbic acid 2-glucoside in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

43. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) is incorporated in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

44. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

45. (New) A potentiating method according to Claim 27, wherein the component (B) synergistically potentiates the pigmentation alleviating effect of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.

46. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 30, wherein a composition comprising:

(A) ascorbic acid 2-glucoside; and

(B) at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance selected from the group adenosine 2'-monophosphate, adenosine 3'-monophosphate, adenosine 5'-monophosphate, and salts thereof

is applied to the skin.

47. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 30, wherein the at least one purine nucleic acid-related substance is adenosine 5'-monophosphate or a salt thereof.

48. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the composition comprises the component (A) in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

49. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the composition comprises the component (B) in a proportion of 0.05% to 10% (w/w) based on the total amount of the composition.

50. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the component (B) is present in a proportion of 0.5 parts to 1000 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of component (A).

51. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to Claim 46, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, or an externally-applied medical or quasi-medical drug.

52. (New) A method for alleviating skin pigmentation according to claim 30, wherein the purine nucleic acid-related substance synergistically potentiates the pigmentation alleviating effect of ascorbic acid 2-glucoside.